



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

QM02/0717

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/157,238	09/16/96	019	MATTERA, M 3749	07/17/00
First Named Applicant	MAGUIRE, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION
LOW PRESSURE DRYER

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
3 1098-98	034-370.000	P45	UTILITY	YES	\$605.00	10/17/00

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

12/13

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/157,238	MAGUIRE, STEPHEN B.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michelle A. Mattera	3749	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication dated June 8, 2000.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
1. ☐ received.
2. ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number). _____
3. ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office Action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

6. ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
7. ☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
- (a) ☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review(PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____
- (c) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the examiner.
- (d) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8. ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE / SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. The restriction requirement stated in the Office Action dated February 8, 2000, paper number 9, has been deemed improper and has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Charles Quinn, Esq. on July 14, 2000.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

The title of the invention has been changed to "Apparatus and method for drying granular material with multiple rotatable hoppers."

In Claim 2, line 1:

The word "apparatus" has been deleted and replaced with - dryer - .

In Claim 3, line 1:

The word "apparatus" has been deleted and replaced with - dryer - .

In Claim 5, line 1:

The word ~~"apparatus"~~ has been deleted and replaced with - hopper - .

In Claim 6:

On line 8, the word ~~"first"~~ has been deleted.

On line 23, the word ~~"such"~~ has been deleted and replaced with - said - .

In Claim ~~8~~, line 1:

The phrase ~~"respective ones of"~~ has been deleted.

In Claim 9, line 17:

The word ~~"such"~~ has been deleted and replaced with - said - .

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance


4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

A low pressure dryer for granular or powdery material comprising a plurality of hoppers rotatable about a common vertical axis serially among filling and heating, vacuum drying and material discharge positions, has not been taught nor fairly suggested in the prior art of record.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michelle Mattera, whose telephone number is (703)308-2844 and electronic transmission/e-mail address is michelle.mattera@uspto.gov. **If applicant(s) choose to send information by email, please be aware that confidentiality of the electronically transmitted message cannot be assured.** Information may also be send to the examiner by facsimile machine at (703)308-7764. Please see MPEP § 502.02.


PAMELA A. WILSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

mm
July 14, 2000